17. (Original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the purinergic agent of Formula II is administered in an amount effective to treat vaginal dryness.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17, wherein the amount of compound of Formula II, administered to the mammal is sufficient to achieve a concentration on the cervical and/or vaginal mucosa of from about 10^{-7} moles/liter to about 10^{-1} moles/liter.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 17, wherein the amount of compound of Formula II, administered to the mammal is sufficient to achieve a daily dose of between 1 to 1000 milligrams.

20. (Original) A method of stimulating cervical and vaginal secretions in a mammal in need thereof by administering an effective secretion stimulating amount of a compound of P^1, P^4-di(uridine-5')tetraphosphate.

21. (Original) A method of treating a mammal with vaginal dryness by administering an effective vaginal treatment amount of a compound of P^1, P^4-di(uridine-5')tetraphosphate.

THE REMARKS

The Amendments

Claims 11 and 16 are canceled.

Claim 13 is amended to remove the parenthesis.

Claim 14 is amended to change the claim dependency.

No new matter is added in the amendments. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendment.

Specification Objection

The Examiner states that the present status of all parent applications should be included. Applicants have amended the specification to indicate the present status of parent applications 09/199,912 and 09/122,516.

Claim Objection

Claim 13 is objected to for the use of parenthesis surrounding the compound "carbamolymethyl." Applicants have amended Claim 13 to remove the parenthesis.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gorodeski, *et al.*, *American J. of Physiol.*, Vol 268, C1215. Claim 11 is canceled.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 11-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Gorodeski, *et al.*, *American J. of Physiol.*, Vol. 270, C1715-25. Claims 11 and 16 are canceled. The rejection of the remaining claims is traversed.

Gorodeski, *et al.* disclose that ATP can acutely and reversibly modulate the paracellular permeability in cultures of human cervical cells. Gorodeski, *et al.* do not teach or suggest the use of dinucleoside polyphosphates.

Dinucleoside polyphosphates are unexpectedly advantageous in the present invention because they are more stable than mononucleotides, either chemically or biologically. The chemical stability of dinucleoside polyphosphates comes from greater chemical resistance toward hydrolysis. The biological stability of dinucleoside polyphosphates is because enzymes cannot catalyze the hydrolysis of dinucleoside polyphosphates as easily as mononucleotides.

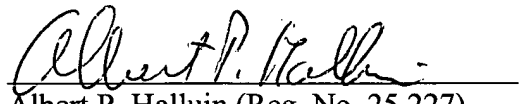
Therefore, Claim 12-15 and 17-21 are not obvious over Gorodeski, *et al.*

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe the application is in good and proper condition for allowance. Early notification of allowance is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 463-8109.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 18, 2003



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